

# Structured TEACCHing Strategies – PHYSICAL ORGANIZATION

Design your classroom

Number of Students

Age Range of Students

Number of Staff

Create the physical organization that would best meet the needs of your students.

## 1. DETERMINE BASIC CURRICULUM AND AREAS

- a. Think about the activities/curriculum for your students and what types of areas would be most meaningful. Think back to their schedules activities.

- Unpack Backpack/Check In
- Play/Leisure/Break (or Centers such as Water/Sand Play, Art)
- Teaching Areas (OR Subject areas Math, Reading, Writing, History, Science OR Vocational Zones such as Cooking, Office, Greenhouse) \*\*\*AT LEAST 2
- Circle Time/Group Activities/Social Group
- Exercise
- Snack
- Work by Myself/Work Alone/Independent Work \*\*\*AT LEAST 4
- Calm Area/Relaxation/Chill Zone
- Transition Area(s)
- Waiting Area (sitting and or standing)

## **2. DESIGN the PHYSICAL ORGANIZATION OF THE CLASSROOM**

- a. Mark the location of
  - Doors
  - Windows
  - Built in cabinets
  - Sinks or bathrooms
- b. Think about the size of each area based on size, age, and needs of the students
- c. Use available furniture to define boundaries and minimize distractions as needed by the student. Teacher(s) need to be able to supervise from a distance.
- d. Think about multiple uses for one area and how to make it look and feel different. Balancing needs of students with size of classroom and available furniture.
- e. Always be cognizant of the staff to student ratio.